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	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
Notice of Allowability	10/743,091	NISHIMURA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Christopher Verdier	3745	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appr All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85 NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in or other appropriate common statements. This application is a sand MPEP 1308.	n this application. If not include unication will be mailed in due of subject to withdrawal from issue	d course. THIS
1. This communication is responsive to <u>Applicants' Request for Continued Examination filed March 15, 2006</u> .			
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-9</u> .			
 Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority u All b)	e been received. e been received in Application cuments have been receive	on No d in this national stage applicat	
4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.			
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") mu (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsper 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner Paper No./Mail Date Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the deposit of the d	son's Patent Drawing Review 's Amendment / Comment of 1.84(c)) should be written on the header according to 37 Citysit of BIOLOGICAL MAT	r in the Office action of the drawings in the front (not the FR 1.121(d). ERIAL must be submitted. N	,
Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/Paper No./Mail Date 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	6. ☐ Interview S Paper No. 08), 7. ☑ Examiner's	nformal Patent Application (PTC Summary (PTO-413), /Mail Date s Amendment/Comment s Statement of Reasons for Allow 	·

Application/Control Number: 10/743,091

Art Unit: 3745

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lee Stepina, Attorney for Applicants, on March 30, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 5, line 17, -- each having a face -- has been inserted after "19".

On page 5, line 31, -- planar -- has been inserted after "a".

On page 6, line 1, -- semi-circular shaped -- has been inserted before "wall".

On page 6, line 6, -- planar -- has been inserted after "a".

On page 6, line 8, -- semi-circular shaped -- has been inserted before "wall".

On page 6, line 21, after ".", the following has been inserted:

-- The front engagement face 27f is offset forward from the face of the recess toward the virtual plane VF. The front engagement face 27f is located in a first plane positioned back from the virtual plane VF. The rear engagement face 29f is located in a second plane, different from

Art Unit: 3745

the first plane, back from the virtual plane VF and offset forward from the face of the recess toward the virtual plane VF. --

The above changes to the specification have been made to provide literal antecedent basis for the limitations in amended claim 1. The limitations in claim 1 are inherently shown in the drawings, but did not have literal antecedent basis in the specification.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Applicants' arguments (see page 8, paragraphs 3-5 of the Arguments filed February 16, 2006) that neither Herman 6,786,696 nor Jones 6,855,033 disclose a front engagement face offset from a rear engagement face with both of the front and rear engagement faces being offset from one another (and thus located in different planes), are persuasive.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Verdier whose telephone number is (571) 272-4824. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10:00-6:30.

Application/Control Number: 10/743,091

Art Unit: 3745

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward K. Look can be reached on (571) 272-4820. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

C.V. March 30, 2006 Christopher Verdier Primary Examiner Art Unit 3745 Page 4